

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6, 12-16, 26 and 27 are pending in this application. By this submission, Claims 7-11, 17-25, and 28-31 are cancelled without prejudice and claims 1-6 have been amended to correct a translation discrepancy in the claim language.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-6, 12-16, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dinwiddie (U.S. 5,434,590).

Applicant submits that Dinwiddie relates to an information handling apparatus for transferring and composing image signals that include a plurality of media sources to be displayed (see Dinwiddie, Abstract). In particular, Dinwiddie appears to be directed to a system in which various media types can be displayed simultaneously on a display. Modules 34, 36 and 38 are media sources (i.e. devices which provide media signals) that are connected to a media bus 24, which is then connected to display device 14 via medial control module 30 (see column 4 line 33 to line 46). As shown in Dinwiddie Figure 2, information from the three media sources 34, 36 and 38 is shown simultaneously on a display.

Applicant submits that Dinwiddie is not involved with the generation of intermediate frames based on key frames and corresponding point data but rather with the composition of a screen display containing a variety of different media. For example, a display having a static computer screen background with a window containing a motion video. Although Dinwiddie discusses an image signal being provided on a point by point basis and that a "point" is related to the resolution of the display device (see column 5, lines 41 to 68), Applicant submits that Dinwiddie does not teach the detecting of the processing performance of an apparatus that generates frames.

Applicant submits that Dinwiddie does not teach or suggest at least the elements of detecting a processing performance of an apparatus which generates the intermediate frames and determining resolution of the intermediate frames to be generated in accordance with the detected processing performance as claimed, for example, in Claim 1.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 1-2, 5, 12-13, 16, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Szeliski (US 6,487,304B1). Szeliski was published on November 26, 2002 whereas the filing date of the present application was January 28, 2002. As such, Applicant believes the Examiner intended this rejection to be under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

Szeliski is directed to a system and process for computing motion or depth estimates from multiple images (see Szeliski abstract). More particularly, Szeliski appears to be related to the calculation of motion/depth estimates $\{u_s\}$ from a plurality of key frames to build a 3-D volumetric model of a scene (see column 1, line 13 to 63). In computing the motion/depth values, the key frames are processed using a multi-resolution pyramid in which the key frames are adjusted to different resolutions for comparison purposes, not based on processing performance. The key frames are then iteratively compared with neighboring key frames within the multi-resolucional pyramid in order to produce a better motion/depth estimate for any given key frame (see column 9, line 65 to column 10 line 51). Applicant submits that the multi-resolution pyramids or motion/depth estimates of Szeliski do not represent "intermediate frames". Szeliski does include a diagram of a relatively common computer system in Fig. 2, however, Szeliski does not seem to discuss detecting processing performance or adjusting resolution of frames based on detected performance.

Applicant submits that Szeliski does not teach or suggest detecting a processing performance of the apparatus which generates intermediate frames and also does not

teach or suggest determining resolution of the intermediate frames in accordance with the detected processing performance, as claimed in, for example, Claim 1.

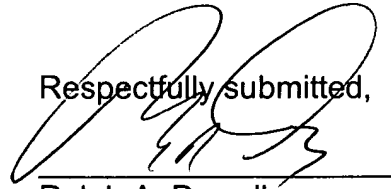
In embodiments of the present invention, the processing performance of the processing apparatus is detected and the resolution of intermediate images to be generated is adjusted according to the detected performance. One goal of the embodiments is to allow a motion video file, including generated intermediate frames, to be viewed at the best possible resolution for the detected processing performance of the system displaying the motion video file. For a lower performance computer, the resolution may be lower or, alternatively, the motion video file (including generated intermediate frames) may need to be saved to a hard drive or the like for later viewing. A benefit of this system/method is that, in content distribution, the distributor only needs to prepare one data format that is then adjusted at the user end according to the processing performance of the computer/displays of various users. This relieves the load on the distributor while each user can enjoy efficient service suitable for their computer.

For the above reasons, applicant submits that Dinwiddie and Szeliski or a combination thereof neither teach nor suggest all of the elements in independent claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 17, 18, 23, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 31. As such, applicant submits that these independent claims are in condition for allowance. For similar reasons, as well as the additional limitations contained therein, claims dependent on the independent claims are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Favourable action on this application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any further concerns regarding the language of the claims or the applicability of the cited references, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

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NH/sc
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Respectfully submitted,


Ralph A. Dowell
Registration No. 26868
Dowell & Dowell, P.C.
2111 Eisenhower Ave. Suite 406
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone: 703-415-2555